CLAIMS

1. Method of quality control for sets of scanned image data, characterized in that output-specific quality parameters which go beyond technical suitability for output are determined in sets of scanned image data by an evaluation unit and evaluated by comparison with at least one reference parameter for at least one selected output process.

2. Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that both scanned image files as a whole and selected areas of the scanned image data set can be evaluated by the evaluation unit.

3. Method according to one of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that more than one scanned image file is included in the evaluation of the output-relevant quality parameters by the evaluation unit.

4. Method according to one of Claims 1-3, characterized in that scanned image data sets with a data depth of greater than 1 bit can be evaluated by the evaluation unit.

5. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation is performed on a computerized basis by means of suitable software.

6. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "screen frequency".

7. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "screen angle".

8. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "area coverage".

9. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "dot shape"

10. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "spreading/overprinting".

11. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "total ink application".

12. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "color space used".

13. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "Moiré".

14. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "minimum area coverage".

15. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "maximum area coverage".

16. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "smallest dot size in the light".

17. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "smallest open dot in the depth dimension".

18. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the evaluation unit evaluates the output-relevant quality parameter "screen type".

19. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that at least one control element which makes it easier for an evaluation unit to determine output-specific quality parameters going beyond the technical suitability for output is inserted into the scanned image data sets.

20. Method according to Claim 19, characterized in that control elements inserted into the scanned image data set are provided with an identification code so that their position within the scanned image file can be found.

21. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that at least one result of the evaluation of the output-relevant quality parameters by the evaluation unit in the form of a visually or automatically evaluable identification code is inserted into at least one scanned image data set.

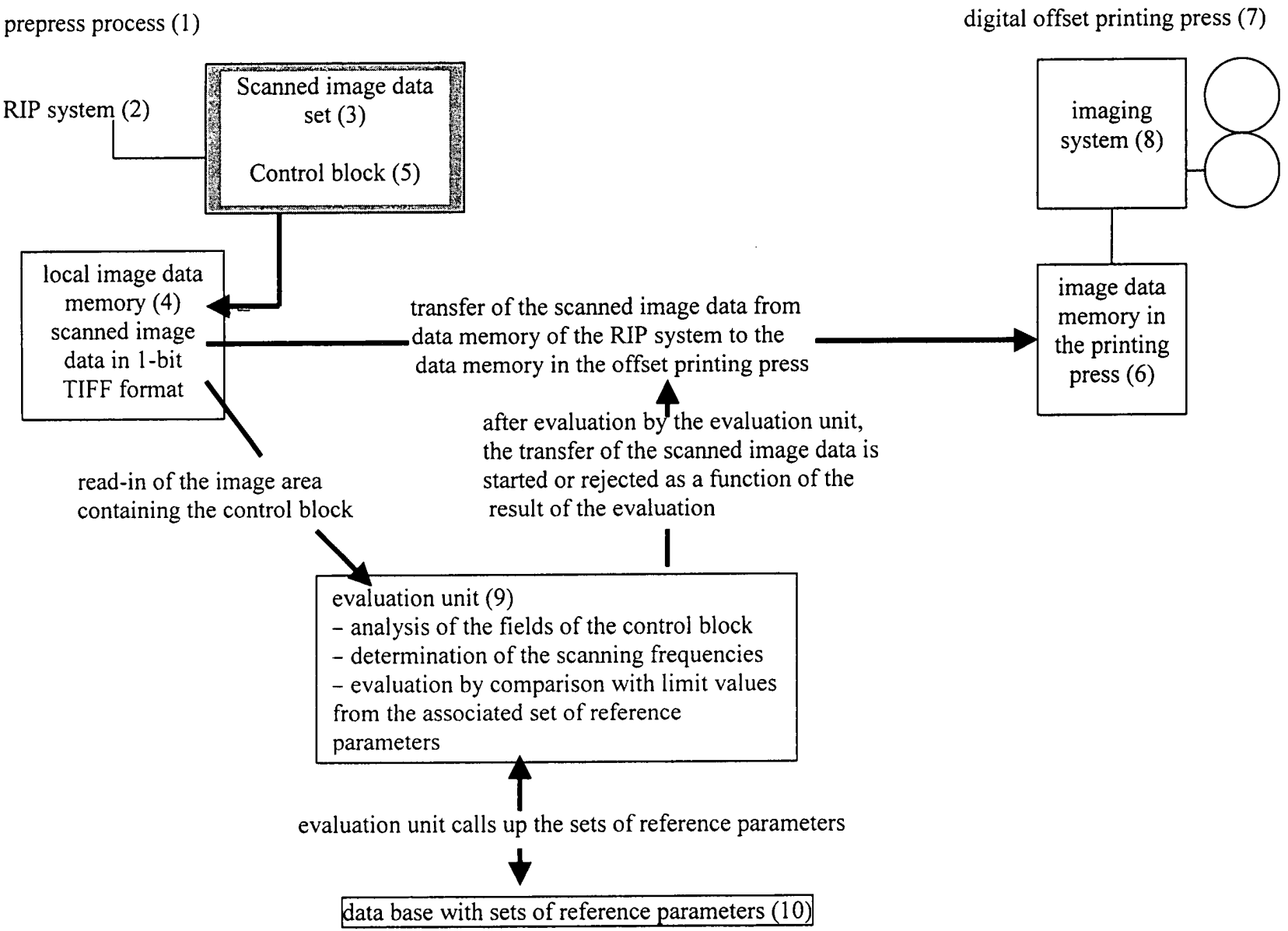
22. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that sets of reference parameters which contain at least one reference parameter are stored and can be called up by the evaluation unit as needed.

23. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that at least one limit value is stored for each reference parameter.

25. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a signal is transmitted when the limit value is exceeded.

26. Method according to Claim 25, characterized in that a suitable error handling procedure is initiated after a signal has been transmitted as the result of a limit value having been exceeded.

27. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that quality parameters which go beyond the actual output in question but which are important for further use of the generated output in other output devices, especially other printing presses, are also checked.


prepress process (1)
digital offset printing press (7)
RIP system (2)
Scanned image data set (3)
Control block (5)
imaging system (8)
local image data memory (4) scanned image data in 1-bit TIFF format
transfer of the scanned image data from data memory of the RIP system to the data memory in the offset printing press
image data memory in the printing press (6)
after evaluation by the evaluation unit, the transfer of the scanned image data is started or rejected as a function of the result of the evaluation
read-in of the image area containing the control block
evaluation unit (9)
- analysis of the fields of the control block
- determination of the scanning frequencies
- evaluation by comparison with limit values from the associated set of reference parameters
evaluation unit calls up the sets of reference parameters
data base with sets of reference parameters (10)